

1954 Packs of Fish

The 1954 packs of canned fish and shellfish intended for human consumption totaled 670 million pounds valued at \$312 million to the packers, according to a report by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The 1954 production in the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico was 10½ percent more than the 606 million pounds packed in 1953 and its value was 7½ percent higher than the 1953 value of \$290 million.

The gain in production is attributed to increased packs of tuna, Maine and Pacific sardines, and salmon.

Following is a summary of 1954 production of principal canned fish and shellfish, with comparisons:

	1953	1954
	(thousands of pounds)	
Tuna.....	188,704	142,140
Salmon.....	187,799	199,831
Maine sardines.....	56,485	59,579
Pacific sardines.....	2,863	59,969
Anchovies.....	33,187	15,527
Mackerel.....	26,834	14,809
Alewives.....	5,013	2,957
Clam products.....	44,650	43,005
Oysters.....	10,372	11,381
Shrimp.....	15,242	14,326

* Drained weight.

Wholesale Distributors' Stocks of Canned Foods

A report on stocks of 19 canned foods in the hands of wholesale distributors has been issued by the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Commodity	April 1, 1954	Jan. 1, 1955	April 1, 1955
	(thousands of actual cases)		
Vegetables:			
Beans, green and wax.....	3,126	3,415	3,450
Corn.....	4,505	4,702	4,696
Peas.....	4,132	3,805	3,831
Sauerkraut.....	n.a.	738	793
Tomatoes.....	3,143	3,611	3,583
Catsup and chili sauce.....	1,876	2,104	2,147
Fruits:			
Applesauce.....	1,327	1,348	1,381
Auricots.....	703	769	642
Cherries, RSP.....	627	579	576
Fruit cocktail.....	1,470	1,368	1,422
Peaches.....	2,982	3,956	3,102
Pears.....	1,128	1,111	1,121
Pineapple.....	1,776	2,022	1,925
Juices:			
Citrus blends.....	604	433	615
Grapefruit.....	1,141	910	1,236
Orange.....	1,460	1,003	1,756
Pineapple.....	1,150	977	1,173
Tomato.....	2,741	2,721	2,687
Fish:			
Maine sardines.....	n.a.	n.a.	331

n.a.—not available. * Includes fruits for salad and mixed fruits (except citrus). * Includes vegetable juice combinations containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.

1954 Packs of Vegetables

Reports on the 1954 packs of canned carrots and peas, succotash, and mixed vegetables have been issued by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

	1953	1954
	(actual cases)	
Peas and carrots.....	1,738,461	1,226,453
Succotash.....	448,362	307,307
Mixed vegetables.....	1,991,224	1,914,098

Peas and carrots:		
Northeast.....	188,203	83,337
Midwest.....	984,836	697,452
West.....	565,422	445,664

U. S. Total, peas and carrots.....	1,738,461	1,226,453
---	------------------	------------------

Succotash:		
Northeast and East.....	320,406	157,823
Other states.....	167,956	149,484

U. S. Total, succotash.....	448,362	307,307
------------------------------------	----------------	----------------

Northeast and East include Me., Md., N. Y., and Pa. Midwest includes Ind., Mich., Minn., and Wis. West includes Calif., Ore., Utah, and Wash. Other states include Minn., Ohio, Va., and Wis.

Canned Foods Cited Abroad

The magazine *Tin*, a monthly published in London by The Tin Producers' Association, features two articles about the American canning industry.

The first of these is entitled "Economic Importance of the Canning Industry in the U. S." and is a reprint from the booklet *The Canning Industry*, issued last year by the N.C.A. Information Division.

The second article is entitled "Canned Food and Water For the Atomic Age" and includes references to the current nuclear tests of canned foods at the Nevada test site, under auspices of N.C.A., the Can Manufacturers Institute, and the Glass Container Manufacturers Institute.

American Home Magazine

The May issue of *American Home* magazine carries the article, "Take A Can of Pears," by June M. Towne, food editor.

The author says, "Did you know that the big drama of a flaming desert can be yours without fuss—simply by lighting a lump of sugar that's been doused in flavoring extract? A marvelous trick. Read all about it in our Choco Pears recipe—a grand dessert that takes advantage of the crisp, pleasing goodness of pears in a can. Pears in a pudding is another fine finale, and a quick one. But don't miss pairing canned pears with your main-course plans. Combine them with meat in the salads we show—the shimmery

green one, delicate and delicious; the other, very hearty (dice pears in with the chicken for variety)—or use them to garnish hot roasts."

The four interesting pear recipes are shown both in color and in black-and-white photographs, and are written in easy to cut-out-and-file style. Chicken or turkey and deviled ham are other canned foods used in the recipes.

News and Radio Releases

Numerous advantages of canned foods to the consumer were pointed up recently in the following series of news features and radio releases as part of the N.C.A. Consumer and Trade Relations program:

To 220 telecasters in 133 cities, covering 41 states and Cuba, with an audience of 16,500,000, "Television Service" containing script material and visual demonstration materials for television programs of interest to women.

To 67 broadcasters on women's programs, listening audience 4,000,000, "Scriptease" featuring recipes for canned foods and citing year-round availability.

To 179 broadcasters, listening audience 11,000,000, "Timely Talks" containing recipes and stressing importance of canned foods in over-all food consumption.

To 178 broadcasters, listening audience 12,000,000, "Kitchen-Air" containing recipes and pointing to nutritional qualities of canned foods.

USDA Poultry Inspection

Notice is given in the *Federal Register* of April 27 that the Agricultural Marketing Service of USDA is considering the issuance of an amendment to its regulations governing the grading and inspection of poultry pies or chicken pot pies.

The proposed amendment would establish, as a requisite for using the USDA inspection mark, a requirement that poultry pies or pot pies contain at least 14 percent cooked poultry meat. This requirement was requested by members of the industry as a means of maintaining consumer acceptance of the product and thereby retaining a good market for stewing chickens.

A meeting will be held in Chicago on May 12 at the LaSalle Hotel to discuss the proposed requirement. Processors and other interested persons have until May 28 to submit written views and suggestions on the proposed change to the Poultry Division of the AMS.

Federal Aid to Communities

The U. S. Department of Commerce has issued a guide to sources of federal assistance as a supplementary aid to communities with programs of economic growth and development.

Entitled "Available Federal Assistance for Community Development," the six-page guide is designed to enable community and industrial development groups to determine which federal programs may be applicable in their areas.

The publication is available from the Commerce Department and its field offices at 10 cents a copy.

Trade Agreements Act

The Senate on May 4 passed H. R. 1, the bill to amend and extend the Trade Agreements Act, by a vote of 75-13. The bill was approved as recommended by the Senate Committee on Finance and with one additional clarifying amendment.

The provisions of H. R. 1 as reported by the Finance Committee are described in the INFORMATION LETTER of April 30, page 202.

The clarifying amendment adopted by the Senate was offered by Senator Morse (Ore.) and would require the Tariff Commission, when considering applications by domestic industry for higher tariff rates, to consider evidence of injury to "any readily determinable segment" of an industry.

In arguing for this amendment, Senator Morse cited the escape clause proceeding instituted in 1952 by producers of glace cherries. The Tariff Commission ruled then that the cherry growers and briners who prepare the cherries used by the domestic glace cherry industry are not a part of the domestic industry "producing like or directly competitive products" and that, therefore, any injury which the imports might cause to the growers and briners would be immaterial in determining whether the domestic industry was injured.

Wage-Hour Legislation

(Concluded from page 203)

ments located in the 'area of production' be exempted from coverage and that the area of production be defined for specific groups of commodities or groups of commodities as consisting of counties in which the commodity is produced commercially and adjoining counties."

The major factor preventing an

adjustment between consumer prices and the declining farm prices has been the increase in the processing and distributing wage levels, the Farm Bureau contended. Wages paid to the processing and distribution industries should be a product of competitive factors and bargaining between employers and employees, not legislative action which raises such costs above the market level, Mr. Triggs stated. The Farm Bureau further recommended that "the present exemption of food retailers from coverage under the Act be maintained," and that "the partial exemption from overtime provisions applicable to seasonal processing industries should be maintained."

John J. Riggle, representing the National Council, opposed increase in the minimum wage and favored a statutory definition of "area of production" and "first processing." The Council proposed the following amendments:

(1) "'Area of production' of any agricultural or horticultural commodity including livestock and poultry, includes all of each county in which such commodity is produced in commercial quantity; and all of each county contiguous to any such producing county, into which such commodity moves to reach an establishment performing one or more of the operations named in section 13(a) (10)."

(2) "'First processing' includes with regard to any perishable agricultural, horticultural or livestock product, those processing operations such as are normally performed in preparing such product to enter wholesale marketing channels."

(3) Deletion of the parenthetical phrases "(as defined by the Administrator)" from sections 7(c) and 13(a) (10).

The N.C.A. is preparing a statement, which is to be made a part of the record of the hearings, emphasizing the necessity for retention of seasonal exemptions now contained in the wage-hour law.

Status of Legislation

Wage-Hour legislation—Senate Labor Subcommittee continued public hearings on legislation to amend Fair Labor Standards Act (see story, page 203).

Trade Agreements Act—H. R. 1 was passed by House Feb. 18 and by Senate, with amendments, May 4 (see INFORMATION LETTER of April 30, page 202; also, story this page).

Price Supports—H. R. 12, restoring rigid price supports at 90 percent of parity, was passed by House May 5 by a vote of 206-201 and sent to Senate.

USDA appropriations—H. R. 5239 was passed by House March 28 and by Senate, with amendments, April 26. Conferees met this week.

Statehood—H. R. 2535, providing statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, is tentatively scheduled for House action during the week of May 9.

Renegotiation—H. R. 4904, providing a two-year extension of the Renegotiation Act of 1951, was passed by House April 28.

Antitrust suits—H. R. 4954, providing a uniform statute of limitations for antitrust cases, was passed by House April 26.

Antitrust penalties—H. R. 3659, to increase maximum penalties under the Sherman Act, was passed by House March 29.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Civil Defense		Federal Aid	
Civil defense values of canned foods tested in nuclear explosion	203	Federal aid to communities	206
Congress		Inspection	
Farm groups testify on wage-hour legislation	203	USDA poultry inspection	205
Trade agreements	206	Publicity	
Status of legislation	206	Canned foods cited abroad	205
Consumer and Trade Relations		American Home magazine	205
News and radio releases	205	Statistics	
		1954 packs of fish	205
		1954 packs of vegetables	205
		Wholesale distributors' stocks of canned foods	205